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**MAN PLEADS GUILTY DURING TRIAL TO ATTEMPTED ARMED
ROBBERY OF JP MORGAN CHASE BANK IN BEDFORD, NEW YORK**

DAVID N. KELLEY, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that FURMAN ODOM, III, pled guilty late yesterday, during his trial in White Plains federal court, to all three counts of a three-count Indictment, charging him with conspiring to commit and attempting to commit the armed robbery of the JP Morgan Chase Bank in Bedford, New York (the "Bank"), and the crime of carrying and using a Lorcin .380 caliber semiautomatic pistol in connection with the attempted robbery.

According to the Indictment and the evidence introduced at trial, on August 8, 2003, ODOM drove himself, VICTOR M. MARRERO and LARON A. REID in gold Lincoln Towncar ("the Lincoln"), from the Bronx, New York, to the Bank. After ODOM parked the Lincoln in a parking lot adjacent to the Bank, MARRERO and REID approached the Bank, intending to rob it, while REID

held a firearm. ODOM served as a "getaway driver" and waited for MARRERO and REID in the Lincoln.

According to the evidence introduced at trial, a Bank employee recognized MARRERO as having similar clothing to that of one of the perpetrators of an earlier, July 30, 2003, armed robbery of the same Bank, in which two men had made off with approximately \$22,000. The Bank employee then contacted the police.

ODOM, MARRERO and REID were later arrested, according to the trial evidence, in nearby North Castle, New York, as ODOM drove the three men in the Lincoln.

As a result of his guilty plea yesterday, before the Honorable STEPHEN C. ROBINSON, United States District Judge, ODOM, 36, faces a combined maximum sentence of thirty years in prison for the conspiracy and attempted robbery charges, followed by a mandatory consecutive term of five years in prison for the firearms charge.

MARRERO and REID pled guilty to the same charges, prior to ODOM's trial, and face the same penalties.

Mr. KELLEY praised the efforts of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, as well as that of the Police Departments of the towns of Bedford, New York, and North Castle, New York.

Assistant United States Attorney JEFFREY A. UDELL is in charge of the prosecution.